

DRANK FORMALDEHYDE.

Four Negroes at Valdosta Almost Killed by It.

Valdosta, Ga., Dec. 25.—It is reported this afternoon that four negroes in this city came very near dying today from drinking formaldehyde, which was taken from an embalmer's outfit.

A local undertaking establishment firm was called to embalm the body of a negro woman, and a negro porter was entrusted with the grip containing the chemicals and instruments employed by the embalmer. The porter left this in a neighboring house and during his absence the inmates opened the grip and took hearty swigs of the formaldehyde. They thought the bottle contained gin, and in their eagerness to get a share of the intoxicants paid no attention to the sputterings of the first man who drank from the bottle.

The whole crowd was made deathly sick by the drink, but physicians finally relieved them. Their mouths and throats were burned as if they had swallowed liquid fire.

TIMES WILL BE BETTER

After January 1, Says Mr. Ridgely, Controller of the Currency

New York, Dec. 24.—William B. Ridgely, Controller of the Currency, was in town on personal business today. Before leaving for Washington tonight he talked of the financial situation. Mr. Ridgely said:

"I think the situation is improving gradually, and after the first of the year the general expectation seems to be that this improvement will proceed even more rapidly. The returns under the last call of the Controller's office have come to hand so well that we know with considerable accuracy the situation as it is with the national banks. Upon the whole, it is very satisfactory. We hope to issue from Washington soon a rather more complete tabulation of conditions with the banks than is usually put out.

"It will be found that the banks in a great many cities have done their duty by the public with surprising faithfulness. This is particularly true of New York city. The same may be said of other Eastern cities and some of the West. St. Louis presented an instance of this same spirit and there are a number of other cases."

CAUGHT IN MICHIGAN

And Arrested For Murder Committed in Tennessee.

Detroit, Mich., Dec. 25.—George Robbin, a negro, was arrested here Sunday night by the police of Knoxville, Tenn., to answer to a charge of murder here. A letter found on his person when he was searched by the police gave them the clue to the charge against him in Knoxville. It was from a woman there, advising him to "lay low," as there was a \$500 reward for his arrest.

It is said that Robbin killed a white man in a quarrel over a girl.

Knoxville, Tenn., Dec. 25.—The negro arrested in Detroit, giving his name as George Robbin, is believed by the police to be Hollie Westmoreland, who shot and killed Carl H. Bundschu, steward of the Elks' Club, in this city on Oct. 29. Scars found upon the negro in Detroit correspond to the identification marks of Westmoreland, the police claim.

Obituary.

Died at her home near Luraville, Mrs. L. G. Moore, who in all appearances bid fair to live quite a while, being only 51 years of age and seemingly healthy and strong. But all-wise Providence in his dispensations sees best, and we must submit though our nearest and dearest friends be snatched from us.

Mrs. Moore will be missed in many ways. Her kind and benevolent disposition, ever ready in word or deed to cheer those in distress, either in body or mind. She leaves a husband and six children to mourn her loss together with a host of friends.

She was interred at New Harmony cemetery after the reading of God's word and solemn prayer. She was laid away in a lovely casket out of our sight, but we hope and expect after the trials of this life shall have past, to meet her again.

"In the Sweet By and By."

A FRIEND.

CHRISTMAS RUSH.

Estimated That 3,840,000 Parcels Were Sent Out of New York City.

New York, Dec. 25.—It is estimated that during the Christmas rush there have been 3,840,000 parcels shipped out of the city by mail and express. Exact figures are, of course, unobtainable, but these figures based on estimates made at the postoffice and the express offices, are thought to be approximately correct. The value of the packages sent by express where values were given, is said to be about 70,400,000. The number of packages sent out of the city this year is about 8 per cent greater than last year, while it is estimated that the value is 15 percent less. This decrease in value is said to be due to the fact that goods are cheaper this year, and that people are more careful in the expenditure of money. New York always gives more than it receives, and it is estimated that not more than 1,900,000 parcels have been received in the city during the past few days.

Next to the postoffice and the express office, the busiest place in the city during the past few days has been the customs appraisers' warehouse. Here all the packages received by parcels post from England and Germany are examined for dutiable articles. Up to last night 20,000 packages were examined, and when the tired examiners were forced to stop work last night nearly 4,000 packages were left on the tables unopened.

Christmas was celebrated in great style on board the steamers in the harbor. The giant Mauretania was wreathed with holly and other Christmas greens from stem to stern, and a great feast was set for the crew, at which each sailor or other employee had a bottle of beer as an extra.

"CUT OUT THE GOSSIP."

It is not the prettiest piece of writing with the most curls to it, but the very best Christmas editorial we have seen from any source is the following from the Atlanta Journal, which we strongly commend to all our readers:

"One of the very best suggestions we have to offer on the Eve of Christmas concerns the pernicious practice of giving and taking gossip and idle rumors. Our suggestion is this: Discontinue gossip, idle rumors and scandalous talk about your neighbors or acquaintances, and frown down those who attempt to unload such unpleasant burdens upon you at this season. They are scandal mongers of the worst type who spread 'they say' information, whether it pertains to domestic or commercial subjects. Scandal mongers are actuated as a rule by one of two motives; they are either maliciously bent almost to the degree of criminality, or else theirs is a stupidity that would distinguish a blind jack in a guessing contest. How much nearer the true Christmas spirit it would be to throttle an idle rumor with a frown—or better still, with an incredulous smile—before it is full blown. The instant one of these 'they tell me, etc.' persons grasps your buttonhole with the intention of talking about some one you know or someone's business affairs, cut him short off with an unmistakable command to change the subject. You may be the next victim of the wagging tongues, so it is good policy to smother such practices when the opportunity is presented. Adopt our Christmas suggestion then, and refuse to listen to the scandal mongers. It is obviously the manly thing to do, and your action will have the additional virtue of making Christmas still more merry for yourself on the score of a good deed well done."

HELPLESS AGAINST THE JAPS.

Some Unpleasant Truths Are Stated by Woodbury.

Seattle, Wash., Dec. 25.—Col. T. C. Woodbury, acting commander of the Department of the Columbia, U. S. A., in a statement today, said that the whole Pacific coast would be helpless in case the navy should prove unable to prevent the landing of a force of 20,000 Japanese at any of her numerous unprotected bays along the coast. He says there are not 2,000 regulars on the coast to resist an attack by land, while 15,000 infantrymen are needed.

Some people marry for love and remain married for spite.

DINNER FOR THE POOR.

Salvation Army's Great Work In New York City.

New York, Dec. 24.—More than 125,000 people will eat Christmas dinners in New York tomorrow furnished by the Salvation Army. The dinners are being put up in baskets for families of five and six, and will be distributed on Christmas morning. Each basket will contain a five-pound chicken in addition to vegetables, coffee, tea and bread, as well as plum pudding, in addition to its great Christmas dinner, the Salvation Army is collecting money for its regular winter relief work, and 100,000 appeals sent to New Yorkers through the mails have brought more than \$13,000 into the coffers of the army.

Death of a Desperado.
(Ocala Star.)

Horace Carroll, one of the most desperate men who ever afflicted Jacksonville, died in a hospital in that city Monday, his death being the result of a wound given him by Walter Meader on the night of December 4. Carroll was a soldier in a Florida company during the Spanish-American War. He went to Jacksonville immediately after that conflict closed, and his life since has been a series of violent acts and jail sentences, the latter of which he often eluded by breaking out. On the night of December 4 last he went to Meader's home, raised a rough house and tried to strike Meader's wife with a chair. Meader then fired on him, inflicting the wounds which three later caused his death.

STRAYED from my place one dark bay pony mare, small blaze in face and bob tail. Reward for her return. w-dec27-2t JACK GREEN.

Our New Methodist Preacher.

The Ocala Banner of Tuesday has the following concerning Mr. Atkisson, who succeeds Mr. Dutil as the Methodist pastor in this city:

"Mr. Atkisson, the beloved pastor of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, in this city, preached very able sermons Sunday morning and night. He gave some interesting data concerning the church for the current year, and spoke in praise of the people of Ocala who had treated him and his family with uniform kindness and whom he had learned to love. He spoke in praise of the newspapers of the city, which had shown a willingness to hold up his hands in every good work. He said that the newspapers were a helpmeet to the churches, and the pulpits were greatly indebted to them. He said that this was illustrated in New York when the press of that city held up the hands of Dr. Parkhurst some years ago when he succeeded in carrying forward certain reforms which were greatly needed in that city. Dr. Atkisson said the newspapers were a great help to him in Atlanta, Jacksonville, Orlando and Ocala, and that it gave him pleasure to publicly acknowledge his indebtedness to them. Mr. Atkisson made a great many friends in Ocala, and his departure is a matter of supreme regret. He spoke in high praise of his successor. He said that he is a good, consecrated man and that he hoped that he would be received by the Methodist congregation of Ocala with the same degree of loyalty and hospitality that he was received, and he said that he could ask for no greater or more cordial reception.

"Mr. Atkisson and family will leave for Live Oak on Saturday, and he will occupy the Live Oak pulpit next Sunday. Mr. Barnett, the new Methodist pastor, will reach Ocala the end of the week some time, and will preach his initial sermon next Sunday morning.

"As we before said, we hope that he will be given the same measure of devotion, loyalty and love that was so generously given to his predecessor, for in no other way can the church be built up."

Christmas Holiday Rates via Seaboard Account Christmas and New Year Holidays, the Seaboard Air Line Railway will use a rate of one and one-third straight fare, plus twenty-five cents, with a minimum rate of fifty cents, for the round trip between all points. Such tickets will be on sale daily December 20th-25th inclusive, December 30th-31st and January 1st. All tickets limited returning to January 8th, 1908.

FIVE MEN KILLED

Christmas Week Tragedies in Louisiana and Mississippi.

New Orleans, Dec. 24.—Five men killed by pistol or knife in Louisiana and Mississippi during the last twenty-four hours is the record up to today of Christmas week fights in this section.

At Covington, La., Henry Route, a negro, entered the front yard of a Mr. Bradley, white, inviting the latter to settle a money matter by "coming out to shoot it out." Bradley killed the negro.

At New Albany, Miss., Ed F. Hillhouse, a section foreman, shot and killed Martin Arnold, also a section man. Both were white.

Valden, Miss., was the scene of a terrible fight which cost the lives of both parties. Maury Davis, white, and Wm. Spinx, colored.

A love affair at Greenville, Miss., caused Ed Smith, a negro railroad man, to seek out and kill Jim English, another negro.

STRAYED—Four head of cattle; one dark Jersey, with one horn slipped and warts on each side of neck, has white heifer calf 6 months old; one red headed cow, tips of horns sawed off, marked smooth crop in one ear, and crop split in other, with yearling calf, same color. \$10.00 reward. J. H. RYE, w-dec27-3t R. F. D. 6, Live Oak, Fla.

SENATOR MALLORY'S FUNERAL.

Simple But Impressive Ceremonies Marked the Sad Occasion.

Pensacola, Dec. 24.—The funeral of the late United States Senator S. R. Mallory took place this morning at St. Michael's Church, and the cortege was one of the largest ever seen in Pensacola. All business houses were closed and flags were placed at half-mast. The last sad rites were simple but impressive. The crowds, with sad hearts and bowed heads, told of the love and esteem in which the deceased was held.

Orders were received yesterday from Washington to place the flag over the custom house at half-mast, a mark of respect which the friends and relatives of Pensacola's illustrious dead appreciate accordingly.

Following were the pall-bearers: Active, A. G. Moreno, R. B. Simpson, W. A. Blount, Jr., S. Pasco, Jr., William Fisher, R. S. Quina, E. E. Reese and G. A. Waterman; the honorary pall-bearers being John B. Jones, W. A. Blount, Sr., Thomas C. Watson, Anthony Riera, C. Moreno Jones, J. Thornton Whiting, Judge E. C. Maxwell and F. C. Brent.

Christmas and New Year Holiday Rates.

The Atlantic Coast Line will sell tickets from all points in Florida December 20th to 25th inclusive, and December 30th, 31st and January 1st, with a final limit returning January 1st. Rates will be one and one-third fare, plus twenty-five cents for the round trip.

Ask your nearest railroad agent for rates to any point south of the Ohio and East of the Mississippi river, or call on or write to

A. W. FRITOT,
Division Passenger Agent,
Jacksonville, Fla.

OBITUARY.

Nettie, the 2 years and 7 months old babe of Mr. A. H. Hall, of Pine Mount, died Tuesday, December 17, from the effects of a burn received Monday evening, and was laid tenderly away in the family burying ground Wednesday.

Nettie was a fair child and it was indeed sad to the family to give her up, but Jesus loved her best and took her to be with Him over in the sun-bright clime, and there, dear friends, free from sickness, sorrow, pain and care and where all is joy and gladness, she awaits your coming. Remember your darling is not dead but liveth evermore. Little Nettie leaves a father, one brother, three sisters, and a loving grand-mother to mourn her loss.

Mother and sister gone to that clime, Wait for the angels coming some time; Safe with the angels, whiter than snow, Watching for dear ones waiting below.

Sweet little Nettie, light of the home, Looking for some one, beckoning to come; Bright as a sunbeam, pure as the dew, Anxiously waiting father, for you. DRUCILLA NOBLES.

In the District Court of the United States for the Southern District of Florida.—In the Matter of E. Pickett, doing business as the firm name of Pickett Company, Bankrupt.

To the creditors of E. Pickett, doing business under the name of Pickett Lumber Co., of Lake City, Fla., in the county of Suwannee, Florida, and district aforesaid:

Notice is hereby given that on the 23rd day of December, A. D. 1907, the said Pickett Lumber Co. was duly adjudicated bankrupt at the first meeting of its creditors to be held at the Courthouse in the county of Suwannee, Florida, in the district aforesaid, on the day of January, A. D. 1908, at 10 o'clock in the forenoon, at which the said creditors may attend, examine the bankrupts, and transact such other business as may properly come before said meeting.

FRANK D'FERRO,
Referee in Bankruptcy.
Dated at Lake City, Florida, 26th day of December, A. D. 1907.

LEGAL NOTICE.

Notice is hereby given that the undersigned, as guardian of Irene Williams, a minor, will apply to Hon. J. N. Conner, County Judge of Suwannee County, Florida, at his office in the Court House of said County, on the 27th day of January, A. D. 1908, for an order authorizing the undersigned as guardian of the said Irene Williams, to sell all and singular the right, title, interest and estate of the said minor in and to the following described real estate situate in Suwannee County, Florida, to-wit:

South half of Southwest quarter of Southwest quarter and Southeast quarter of Southwest quarter and Southwest quarter of Southeast quarter of Section Twenty-three (23), Township Four (4), Range Fourteen (14) South and East; Northwest quarter of Northeast quarter, less ten (10) acres on south side; North half of Northwest quarter and Southeast quarter of Northwest quarter of Section Twenty-six (26), Township Four (4) South, Range Fourteen (14) East.

12-27-5t ALLIE M. WILLIAMS,
Guardian of Irene Williams, a minor.

Notice.

We wish to announce to our customers and to the public in general that our place of business will be closed Monday and Tuesday, December 30th and 31st, and Wednesday, January 1st, for the purpose of taking inventory. We wish to thank them for their liberal patronage during this year, thanking them in advance for a continuance, also wishing a happy and prosperous New Year, we beg to remain.

Yours to command,
SUWANNEE HARDWARE CO.

Would Fool Dad.

"If you refuse me," said the young man, "I shall blow out my brains."
"I'd hate to have you do that," replied the girl, thoughtfully, "and yet it would be a good joke on pa. He says you haven't any, you know."
—Philadelphia Ledger.

It's the easiest thing in the world for a timid girl to fool a man into believing she will let him have his own way after they are married—Chicago News.

More Satisfactory.

Jasper—Have you got a nurse for your children yet?
Jumpuppe—No. We have changed our policy and have hired a referee.
—Town Topics.

And many a girl's shirt waist is rumpled because of too much pressing.

KILLED BY AN OFFICER.

Deas Too Quick for Negro and Got the First Shot.

Tampa, Fla., Dec. 25.—Deputy Sheriff W. C. Deas late this afternoon shot and killed Charles Strong, a negro. Strong was standing in front of police headquarters when the deputy sheriff drove up. Strong threatened to shoot, when Deputy Deas, pulled his revolver and fired three bullets into the negro's body, causing almost instant death.

Anyway Ananias was never accused of being the author of a tombstone inscription.

About the first thing a child learns in this strenuous old world is how not to behave.